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MR. RUFFENNACH: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you very much for coming this evening. I understand we're competing with a couple of other meetings in town this evening. We appreciate you taking time to come to this one.

This is a public scoping meeting on the draft Programmatic Impact Statement, or PEIS, for Joint Task Force 6 and INS missions, primarily along the southwest border. My name is Ron Ruffennach, and I will be officiating this evening's meeting.

Before a decision is made to implement any programs and accompanying strategies, JTF6 and INS must do a complete analysis of them. This type of broad analysis is referred to as a Programmatic EIS, rather than a more commonly known EIS, which analyzes a specific project proposed by the government.

Part of the process involves receiving public comment during the early phase of the development of the PEIS, and this is called scoping. And that is what we're here this evening to do.

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At scoping meetings we ask for public

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input on the scope or range of issues that should be considered for analysis when writing the PEIS. Comments received during scoping will be considered in this document when it is prepared

05 and released to the public in a draft form.
06 We have two goals tonight, to provide
07 you information about JTF6 and INS activities,
08 but more importantly to receive your comments for
09 consideration in the PEIS. This will help the
10 JTF6 and INS folks address all concerns about the
11 proposed actions.

12 Before introducing the speakers this
13 evening, I'd like to explain my role in the
14 meeting. My purpose is to ensure that we have a
15 fair, orderly meeting and that all who wish to be
16 heard will have an opportunity to do so.

17 Our speakers for this evening are
18 Mr. Joe Harris, who is the Marfa sector Assistant
19 Chief with the border patrol, and he will talk
20 about the current needs and activities of the
21 Marfa sector.

22 He will be followed by John Esquibel
23 from the Headquarters Bureau, border patrol, who
24 will give a brief history and provide a national
25 perspective of border patrol activities.

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01 He will be followed by Lieutenant
02 Colonel Steve Tennant from Joint Task Force Six,
03 who will discuss the military role in
04 construction projects along the border.

05 Mr. Chris Ingram will then discuss the
06 National Environmental Policy Act process and
07 give the timeline for the development of the
08 Programmatic EIS.

09 Also with us this evening is a court
10 reporter who is documenting and will provide a
11 verbatim transcript of this evening's meeting.

12 You can comment at this evening's
13 meeting in a couple of different ways. You can
14 provide us your written comments. There will be
15 a time line that will show you how long we will
16 be taking those written comments, or you may
17 present your comments this evening orally.
18 Normally we would have a microphone, if this was
19 a larger room, and we'd ask you to come to the
20 mike and address your comments. For purposes of
21 this evening's meeting, for those people who have
22 identified themselves to speak, we will just ask
23 for you to stand at your place and you can make
24 your comments from where you're standing. We
25 will, however, maybe address a little more detail

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01 about how we're going to handle the comment
02 period once we hear from our speakers.

03 With that introduction, let me turn it
04 over to Joe Harris, and he'll welcome you and
05 also give you the Marfa border patrol sector
06 activities.

07 MR. HARRIS: Good evening, folks. On
08 behalf of our Sector Chief Sammy Garza here in
09 Marfa, I'd like to welcome everybody to the

10 scoping meeting and give you a brief rundown on
11 where the Marfa sector fits into the strategic
12 plan.

13 As illegal immigration becomes more and
14 more important to America, Marfa sector itself
15 will continually realize more and more resources
16 in our area. Our efforts to utilize those
17 resources in the most effective way possible will
18 require infrastructure. This infrastructure will
19 require permanent structures, roads, fences,
20 lights, all types of construction projects that
21 are going to require environmental impact studies
22 of the area.

23 In that effort of our actual border
24 control, it combines our efforts with JTF6, Joint
25 Task Force Six, which is the military, and we
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01 will utilize those units for construction and
02 other efforts throughout the border region.

03 Past that, I'll turn it over to John
04 Esquibel, and he'll give you a brief breakdown of
05 the national strategic plan of Operation Rio
06 Grande and where we fit into that.

07 MR. ESQUIBEL: Thank you.

08 Good evening, my name is John Esquibel.
09 I'm an Assistant Chief assigned to the United
10 States Border Patrol Headquarters in Washington,
11 D.C. I've only been in Marfa a few hours, and
12 it's probably the best kept secret in the border
13 patrol.

14 The border patrol was first organized
15 in 1904 by the then Commissioner General of
16 Immigration, and were referred to as "Border
17 Guards." Every once in awhile the President
18 still calls us border guards, but we are border
19 patrol agents. It was established in 1924 by the
20 Bureau of Immigration as the United States Border
21 Patrol and originally was part of the Department
22 of Labor, but since 1940 it has been a part of
23 the Department of Justice, and we do serve under
24 the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

25 We have 21 border patrol sectors
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01 throughout the United States, including Puerto
02 Rico, and we have the headquarters for the border
03 patrol in Washington, D.C., an academy in Glynco,
04 Georgia, with two satellites, one in Charleston,
05 South Carolina and one in Artesia, New Mexico.

06 The mission of the border patrol, as
07 it's stated, is to protect the external
08 boundaries of the United States between the ports
09 of entry, to prevent or deter illegal entry, to
10 detect, interdict, apprehend undocumented
11 entrants, smugglers, narcotics, contraband and
12 violators of others laws. We are designated the
13 lead agency responsible for drug seizures along
14 the United States border between the ports of

15 entry.

16 Our operations include linewatch and
17 sign cutting, traffic checkpoints, transportation
18 check, air operations, marine patrol, horse and
19 bike patrol and our canine program.

20 The national border patrol strategy
21 calls for "Prevention through Deterrence." It's
22 a multiyear approach in which we want to, "Gain,
23 Maintain and Extend Control."

24 We have four operations currently in
25 place. The first one started in 1993 in El Paso,
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01 Texas. It was called Operation Hold the Line.

02 It's still in existence.

03 After Hold the Line, we commenced
04 Operation Gatekeeper, which encompassed the
05 San Diego sector, central sector and Yuma
06 sector.

07 Operation Safeguard then started after
08 Operation Gatekeeper, which is part of the Tucson
09 sector's operation.

10 And last August, we began Operation Rio
11 Grande, which encompasses the Marfa sector,
12 Laredo, Del Rio and McAllen sectors.

13 The apprehensions that we have as of
14 May of this year, from October '97 to May of this
15 year, for the southwest border, are 1,042,227, of
16 which the Marfa sector is responsible for 9,932
17 of those apprehensions.

18 Currently, again from October to July
19 of this year, Marfa sector has approximately 146
20 agents assigned to the sector.

21 As mentioned earlier, we are the
22 primary agency responsible for drug apprehension
23 between the ports of entry. Last fiscal year we
24 apprehended approximately 52 percent of all drug
25 seizures from all federal agencies combined, of
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01 which Marfa sector this year has approximately
02 252 drug seizures, and that's from October '97 to
03 July 4 of this year, of which approximately
04 32,504 pounds of it was marijuana, 52 pounds of
05 cocaine, for a total street value of
06 \$28,733,069.

07 Nationwide the border patrol, during
08 the same time period, has seized approximately
09 14,994 pounds of cocaine, and 705,715 pounds of
10 marijuana.

11 I just want to highlight some seizures
12 that we had in the months of July and August.
13 They're significant, but by no means are they
14 unusual. This occurs literally every day that we
15 operate on the southwest border.

16 On July 13, agents working in
17 Brownsville seized 2,501 pounds of marijuana with
18 a street value of \$2,000,800.

19 On July 22, agents in Laredo seized

20 2,534 pounds of marijuana, street value of
21 \$2,027,200.

22 And on July 17, agents in Rio Grande
23 City seized 1,674 pounds of marijuana, street
24 value of \$1,339,000.

25 Last month agents, along with the
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01 United States Customs Service, conducted a joint
02 operation in El Paso in which they seized 1,705
03 pounds of marijuana and 35 pounds of
04 methamphetamine with a street value of \$1,364,000
05 and \$1,120,000, respectively.

06 On August 8, agents in Laredo seized
07 500 pounds of cocaine with a street value of
08 \$16,016,000.

09 And on August 10, agents with the
10 United States Customs Service seized 1,214 pounds
11 of marijuana with a street value of \$971,880.

12 As mentioned earlier, it's an everyday
13 thing, although they are significant in their
14 size, they are not unusual.

15 Our success and our accomplishments can
16 be attributed to our national strategy, the
17 operations that we currently conduct, and the
18 strategies that we've implemented since 1993. We
19 look forward to continuing our operations and
20 changing our strategy to meet the current needs.
21 We also were grateful to have the assistance of
22 Joint Task Force Six because they've assisted us
23 with engineering support that has saved the
24 Immigration and Naturalization Service, and most
25 importantly the American taxpayer, millions and
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01 millions of dollars, and we look forward to that
02 partnership with JTF6. Thank you for your time.
03 Please welcome Lieutenant Colonel Steve Tennant.

04 LIEUTENANT COLONEL TENNANT: I'm not
05 nearly so gifted a public speaker as
06 Mr. Esquibel, so please bear with me. I'm going
07 to read my remarks.

08 Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. My
09 name is Lieutenant Colonel Steve Tennant. I am
10 the Staff Engineer for Joint Task Force 6. I am
11 here tonight to provide you information regarding
12 what we do, how we do it, and the purpose for
13 what we do. By the end of this presentation I
14 hope you will have a greater understanding of our
15 organization, our purpose, and how we support the
16 various Federal, State and local law enforcement
17 agencies in their efforts to stop the flow of
18 drugs into our community.

19 This is the sequence I will use to
20 explain JTF6 and how we operate. We will start
21 with the National Drug Control Strategy and goals
22 put forth by the President, explain the
23 involvement of the Department of Defense and
24 JTF6, what the mission of our organization is,

25 and every type of support we provide.

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01 The statistics you see here give a
02 broad view of the national drug problem. Illegal
03 drug use is responsible for a significant amount
04 of criminal activity and poses a serious public
05 safety and public health problem for governments
06 at all levels. An estimated \$83 billion per year
07 is spent by governmental agencies to address
08 drug-related problems, and \$67 billion goes to
09 social programs such as treatment and education.
10 An estimated \$16 billion is spent on law
11 enforcement efforts each year.

12 Drugs impact on the productivity of our
13 work force, disrupt the educational system in our
14 country, have a significant impact on law and
15 order in our communities, affect our families,
16 and place a burden on our health care system. To
17 address these issues the Office of Drug Control
18 Policy, working at the direction of the
19 President, formulated and published a National
20 Drug Control Strategy which defines our national
21 plan to combat and treat drug use and assigns
22 goals and objectives by which we can measure the
23 success of our efforts.

24 These are the goals laid out in the
25 strategy published in February of 1998. The

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01 Department of Defense and JTF6 contribute to the
02 attainment of these goals by providing support to
03 law enforcement efforts to reduce drug-related
04 crime and violence, to shield America's land, sea
05 and air frontiers, and to break the foreign and
06 domestic sources of supply. The national
07 objective is to reduce drug use and availability
08 50 percent by the year 2007. Just to reemphasize
09 -- we highlighted them in yellow -- JTF6 and DoD,
10 contribute only to goals 2, 4 and 5 out of the
11 five total.

12 JTF6 is a Department of Defense task
13 force established in 1989 to provide support to
14 law enforcement agencies on the southwest
15 border. Since 1989, our responsibilities have
16 grown to include the entire continental United
17 States. The main focus of our support remains
18 with the four southwest border states, where over
19 80 percent of our missions occur. Our most
20 recent mission statement, approved earlier this
21 year, is Joint Task Force 6 synchronizes and
22 integrates Department of Defense operational,
23 technological, training and intelligence support
24 to drug law enforcement agencies, counterdrug
25 efforts in the continental United States to

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01 reduce the availability of illegal drugs.

02 This slide shows you specific
03 legislation by the Congress which establishes

04 JTF6 and provides the legal constraints under
05 which we operate. To summarize the various laws
06 you see here, they authorize the Department of
07 Defense to conduct training exercises in Drug
08 Interdiction Areas, to provide support to the
09 counterdrug efforts, and assist with the
10 detection and monitoring of cross-border
11 smuggling activities.

12 The points you see here are the
13 restrictions we operate under. All support must
14 be at the written request of law enforcement and
15 must have a specific counterdrug nexus or linkage
16 clearly articulated. All JTF6 activities must
17 comply with the Posse Comitatus Act (as amended)
18 which prohibits the use of U.S. military forces
19 for domestic police functions. We may not
20 violate the sanctity of the United States-Mexico
21 border. We must follow rules of engagement which
22 only allow use of force in self-defense.
23 Currently, no JTF6 operations are authorized to
24 carry weapons, and all security is provided by
25 the supportive law enforcement agency. We are

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01 prohibited from collection and maintaining
02 information on U.S. persons, and undergo
03 independent intelligence oversight inspections to
04 ensure compliance with this restriction. We may
05 conduct no operations on private land without the
06 express written permission of the landowner. Our
07 funds can only be expended on counterdrug
08 support. As you probably are aware, ground
09 missions, which I will describe later, are under
10 suspension by order of the Secretary of Defense.
11 We still provide a wide range of operational
12 training, engineer and general support to law
13 enforcement.

14 This slide sums up our involvement in
15 the counterdrug effort. We provide support but
16 are not police. We do not search people or
17 property, seize contraband or make arrests.

18 This slide shows you our process for
19 providing support. All requests are processed
20 through Operation Alliance, an agency made up of
21 Federal, State and local law enforcement
22 representatives who validate counterdrug nexus
23 and provide us with our working priorities. JTF6
24 conducts an independent legal review, and once
25 the mission is approved by our command group we

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01 solicit for volunteer units to participate.
02 These units sign up for the training benefit they
03 receive, which closely matches specific skills
04 required for their wartime mission. The mission
05 is planned, briefed for approval to JTF6 and the
06 Law Enforcement Agency, and formal orders are
07 issued to begin the support. After each
08 operation, an after action review is conducted by

09 the unit with the law enforcement agency and JTF6
10 to capture any lessons learned.

11 This shows the operational missions we
12 are authorized to perform. Ground observation
13 and reconnaissance using military forces to watch
14 smuggling routes or patrol remote areas to locate
15 marijuana plots or narcotics labs. Both of these
16 missions are under the suspension I spoke of
17 earlier, and we conduct none of these operations
18 at this time. Aerial observation is the use of
19 DoD aircraft to spot drug growing areas or labs
20 and to monitor smuggling corridors. Any
21 information or activity is immediately passed to
22 law enforcement for action. Sensor missions
23 involve monitoring smuggling corridors to detect
24 and report activity to law enforcement. Ground
25 sensor operations are covered by the suspension.

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01 We also provide medical evacuation support and
02 transportation of supplies and equipment.
03 Controlled delivery is best described by
04 example. Often, law enforcement agencies request
05 our support in moving captured drugs from the
06 point of arrest to the smuggling destination in
07 order to make arrests at that end. We provide
08 them with transportation, with vehicles of seized
09 drug loads under law enforcement supervision. We
10 do not get involved in the chain of custody of
11 any evidence.

12 Our engineers provide a wide range of
13 assessment services to include project design,
14 surveys, cost estimating, environmental
15 assessments and assistance with master planning
16 of infrastructure. Our primary construction
17 missions are border roads, fences and lights
18 between the U.S. ports of entry along the
19 southwest border, and trading and operational
20 facilities such as small arms ranges, vehicle
21 maintenance facilities, aviation support
22 facilities, border patrol checkpoints, and other
23 structures throughout the United States.

24 This slide describes the various
25 general support missions which we provide.

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01 Mobile Training Teams are small groups of subject
02 matter experts requested by law enforcement to
03 provide classroom and practical instruction. We
04 provide 150 training teams per year in medical,
05 firearms, intelligence, language and planning
06 techniques. Specialized training is coordinated
07 by JTF6 but provided by the U.S. Army Military
08 Police School. Examples of this include tactical
09 police operations and special reaction team
10 techniques. We participate in technology sharing
11 efforts with law enforcement agencies. Examples
12 are sensors, night vision and tunnel detection
13 technologies.

14 This slide sums up what JTF6 is all
15 about. We're a dedicated organization drawn from
16 all four services, committed to the service of
17 our nation, and supporting our law enforcement
18 agencies in the counterdrug effort.

19 This will conclude my formal briefing.
20 I'll be followed by Mr. Chris Ingram, who will
21 discuss the process we will follow in the
22 National Environmental Policy Act. Ladies and
23 gentlemen, thank you for your kind attention and
24 thank you for being here tonight.

25 MR. INGRAM: Thank you, Colonel

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01 Tennant. Again, my role tonight is to tell you a
02 little bit about the National Environmental
03 Policy Act, or NEPA as it's commonly called, and
04 the process in which we will prepare the
05 Programmatic EIS.

06 NEPA was first passed by the U.S.
07 Congress in 1969. It requires that any federal
08 agency that is proposing to undertake an action
09 or to commit significant resources to an action,
10 that they have prepared a NEPA document. The
11 purpose of a NEPA document is to provide full
12 public disclosure of the proposed action and any
13 anticipated impacts of that action. It also
14 allows the public an opportunity to participate
15 in the decision-making process, and it provides
16 the decision makers with objective, sound,
17 accurate data and impact analysis so that they
18 can make a better and informed decision.

19 You see here there's three levels of
20 environmental consideration, or a NEPA document.
21 First is a categorical exclusion, or a CATEX.
22 These are very minor projects that only need a
23 very cursory look at the potential impacts. The
24 second level is environmental assessment, and the
25 third and most intense level is environmental

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01 impact statement which, of course, is what we
02 will be preparing.

03 Whenever an EIS is being prepared, NEPA
04 and the President's Council on Environmental
05 Quality require that scoping be conducted and, of
06 course, that's why we're here tonight.

07 I'd like to go over with you a little
08 bit on the NEPA process. As I mentioned, first a
09 federal agency will identify a need or a problem
10 that they may have. Then they'll start
11 formulating specific actions or alternatives that
12 will either solve or satisfy that need or solve
13 the problem. If, as in this case, an EIS is
14 determined to be needed, they will issue a notice
15 of intent and publish that in the Federal
16 Register. A notice of intent for this EIS was
17 published on August 28, which initiated the
18 public scoping process. This is the third of a

19 series of ten public scoping meetings we're
20 having all along the border. We will take your
21 comments in preparing the draft document, and
22 that draft EIS will be released to the public for
23 review and comment, and you'll have a minimum of
24 45 days to review that and provide comments back
25 to us, after which we'll receive your comments,

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01 and we'll prepare the final EIS. It, too, will
02 be released to the public for review and comment
03 for a period of no less than 30 days. Then
04 afterwards, the record of decision will be
05 published.

06 All NEPA documents have to comply with
07 various federal and state environmental
08 regulations and statutes, not the least of which,
09 of course, is NEPA, but there are many other
10 ones, Endangered Species packet, National
11 Historic Preservation Act, for instance on
12 executive orders, or the recently promulgated
13 environmental justice one that President Clinton
14 signed a couple of years ago. And, of course,
15 there's Army and INS regulations and various
16 other state and federal regulations and other
17 permits.

18 INS and JTF6 have been complying with
19 all these various regulations and statutes in
20 several different ways. First of all, in 1994
21 they issued the final EIS and record of decision
22 for the Programmatic EIS. This told about the
23 entire program across the entire U.S.-Mexico
24 border area. And since then they have been
25 conducting site- or project-specific

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01 environmental assessments whenever a specific
02 project is identified, or project location. For
03 many of these, they've had to do cultural and
04 national resource surveys to identify sensitive
05 resources. And then for most of the major
06 engineering actions, they've also had to do
07 on-site monitoring with professional biologists
08 and archaeologists to ensure that sensitive
09 resources are not impacted by their construction
10 activities.

11 Now, this '94 EIS covered a five-year
12 period for INS and JTF6. That five-year period
13 is ending, of course, in late 1999. So they
14 decided to be a little proactive, start earlier
15 on this process, and update or supplement that
16 '94 document.

17 This document will be similar to the
18 '94 document in that the existing conditions or
19 baseline conditions will be described in five
20 different volumes. This information will be sent
21 to all the local and regional libraries for
22 public review. The information in these
23 documents will be summarized and incorporated by

24 reference to the Programmatic EIS. Programmatic
25 EIS will then, of course, utilize this

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01 information and be developed into the draft stage
02 I mentioned awhile ago.
03 Some of the goals of the Supplemental
04 Programmatic EIS I'd like to go over is that we
05 will identify the types of projects that INS and
06 JTF6 expect to occur over the next five years.
07 Again, this is a programmatic document, so we
08 can't address specific projects or specific
09 locations, but we're going to project out what
10 the types of projects are going to be over the
11 next five years.
12 We'll look in generic, or general terms
13 of the impacts that are associated with these
14 types of projects, and we'll compare and discuss
15 the cumulative impacts of both the past projects,
16 now that we have all that data, as well as what
17 we expect to occur over the next five years.
18 And, of course, one main goal is to provide good,
19 sound objective data to the decision maker so
20 that they can make an informed decision.
21 Some of the benefits is that it
22 provides full disclosure to the public, as I
23 mentioned awhile ago. It eliminates some
24 repetitive discussions by allowing tiering to the
25 Programmatic EIS for specific documents. This

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01 cuts down on cost and time, so it's a savings to
02 INS, JTF6 and, of course, the American public.
03 It provides an accurate, cumulative assessment of
04 the entire program, which is fairly unique among
05 federal agencies and, of course, it maintains
06 some coordination with the state and federal
07 resource agencies and provides them with some
08 good, solid data that they wouldn't normally get
09 about endangered species locations or culture
10 resource sites.
11 I want to emphasize, though, that
12 preparation of the supplemental PEIS will not
13 allow INS, JTF6 or any other agency that tiers to
14 this document to conduct a project without fully
15 complying with NEPA, the National Historic
16 Preservation Act, Endangered Species Act, the
17 Water Quality Act or any other state,
18 environmental statute or regulation. They'll
19 still have to go through that process.
20 Schedule as we presently envision it.
21 As I mentioned, the notice of intent was
22 published August 28. That initiated the public
23 scoping process. We're having the scoping
24 meetings that will conclude on -- November 5 will
25 be our tenth one. However, we'll accept your

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01 comments all the way up through December 16. We
02 hope to issue the draft EIS for public review and

03 comment in February of '99 for a minimum of 45
04 days, after which we intend to have a final EIS
05 ready for public review and comment by September
06 of '99, and a decision in November of '99.

07 That concludes my presentation. I'm
08 going to turn it back over to Ron Ruffennach so
09 he can discuss some of the ground rules of the
10 comment period.

11 MR. RUFFENNACH: If I could, I'll ask
12 for the lights at this time. I think they're
13 behind you, Joe.

14 As Chris said in his presentation, this
15 is one of ten meetings that's being held along
16 the border. So far we've held two meetings. We
17 held one in El Paso and one in Deming earlier
18 this week. And again, there are a series of the
19 remaining seven that are scheduled through the
20 next couple of months.

21 I want to emphasize that we're here to
22 take your comments, and that the subjects that
23 you see on the board -- even though we have the
24 lights on, I think people can pretty much still
25 see those -- are the general categories that will

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01 be covered in the Programmatic EIS. And we're
02 here tonight to look and ask for your comments on
03 these very broad subjects. However, we would
04 also like to take your comments on any other
05 issues that you feel need to be included as this
06 PEIS is developed over the next several months.

07 There are several reasons why we
08 conduct these meetings the same way. It's a
09 matter of public record. These are part of the
10 public document. All ten meetings are being
11 conducted in the same fashion with the same
12 presentations. We are providing public comment
13 limited to five minutes. There are no questions
14 during the public comment period that will be
15 answered by anyone who is sitting up here.
16 However, we really strongly encourage you to stay
17 afterwards and speak with a number of people who
18 are here from the border patrol and with JTF6 who
19 can answer and address any questions or concerns
20 that you might have. If you want those comments
21 and concerns part of the formal record for this
22 evening's meeting, we'll ask the court reporter
23 to stay behind for a little while afterwards, and
24 you can provide those comments directly to her.

25 Again, however, I will emphasize that

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01 we will be taking written comments on the PEIS
02 development through December 16, and we'll have
03 an address at the end of this presentation, and I
04 think it's also on your handout as to where you
05 can send those comments.

06 I will give you an indication when
07 you're getting close to the end of your five

08 minutes, and at that point in time I'll ask that
09 you draw your comments to closure. Again, if you
10 cannot get them in within the five minutes, we
11 ask that you please provide them to us in
12 writing, or maybe further discuss them with
13 someone or provide them to the court reporter.

14 We're taking speakers in the order in
15 which they signed up. At this point in time I
16 have two people who have asked to speak. Again,
17 if you can stand up, please state your name and
18 speak as clearly and as loudly as you can so that
19 the court reporter can hear everything.

20 Our first speaker is Mr. Enrique
21 Madrid.

22 MR. MADRID: Thank you. My name is
23 Enrique Madrid. I'm from Redford, Texas. I am a
24 member of the Redford Citizens Committee for
25 Justice. I just have a few short comments.

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01 In view of the impact that JTF6
02 operations have had on the people of Redford,
03 Texas, the Redford Citizens Committee for Justice
04 believes that there is nothing that JTF6 can do
05 on the border that cannot be done better,
06 cheaper, safer and more wisely by civilian
07 federal and state agencies and by private
08 American business firms. We ask that the high
09 command of JTF6 begin to take whatever steps are
10 in their power to dissolve JTF6. We have a list
11 of objections and comments that we wish to submit
12 to you for consideration and for action, if I may
13 pass this on to you?

14 MR. RUFFENNACH: Yes, sir.

15 MR. MADRID: I'd like to give one for
16 each of the people at the desk, and I have other
17 papers for members of the audience and for other
18 officers from INS. Thank you very much.

19 MR. RUFFENNACH: Thank you, sir, for
20 your comments.

21 Our next speaker is Harold Kelly.

22 MR. KELLY: My name is Harold Kelly,
23 Alpine, Texas. I'm spokesman for the Trans-Pecos
24 Protection Group.

25 We have not received any notice of your
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01 intent. We have not received any environmental
02 information or documents. As far as I can tell
03 here this evening, this is a very insufficient
04 scoping meeting. You have not complied with any
05 of the preliminaries. Thank you.

06 MR. RUFFENNACH: Thank you, Mr. Kelly.

07 Again, those are the only two speakers
08 that I had who actually requested that they be
09 given time to speak. I will, however, ask if
10 there's anyone who heard comments this evening
11 that would now like to take five minutes and
12 provide us with some comments?

13 Chris, do you have a final slide,
14 please? I apologize for it not being on the
15 screen. The address, however, is on the handout
16 where, again, you can provide your written
17 comments to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
18 through December 16.

19 And let me, once again, on behalf of
20 the Joint Task Force 6 and INS thank you very
21 much for coming this evening. Again, we
22 appreciate your comments, and I encourage you to
23 stay behind and have some dialogue with officials
24 who are here.

25 Thank you for coming. That concludes
0030 our meeting.

02 (Proceedings concluded at 7:40 p.m.)

0031

01 CERTIFICATE

02
03 I, Margaret E. Valenzuela, Certified
04 Shorthand Reporter of the State of Texas, do
05 hereby certify that the above and foregoing
06 contains a true and correct transcription of the
07 Proceedings.

08
09 Certified to on October 14, 1998.

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13 Margaret E. Valenzuela
13 Certified Shorthand Reporter
14 Texas CSR No. 3634
14 Expires December 31, 1999

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